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CENTRAL FAX CENTER****OCT 31 2006****AMENDMENTS TO DRAWINGS**

Figures 2A and 2B have been marked with changes. In Figure 2B the lead line from "164" has been extended to the radial passage as shown and skewed passage 111 connecting sump 110 and the inlet 113. In Figure 2A the inlet of scavenge pump 118 has been identified by reference number "113" and the radial passage connecting axial passages 142, and 146 has been identified by reference number "143".

Replacement Sheets for pages 2/3 and 3/3 incorporating these changes to Figures 2A and 2B are enclosed. Annotated Sheets Showing Changes to Figures 2A and 2B on pages 2/3 and 3/3 are enclosed

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER**REMARKS**OCT 31 2006**

The Office Action mailed September 26, 2006, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in response thereto. The drawings stand objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The first and second lubrication circuits are shown in the drawings and described with reference to the last paragraph beginning on page 8, and the first full paragraph of page 9. The specification has been amended in these paragraphs to further highlight passages in Figures 2A and 2B that comprise the first and second hydraulic circuits. The figures have been amended to identify certain passages in Figures 2A and 2B that comprise the first and second hydraulic circuits. No new matter has been added to the application.

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph. Claims 1-17 recite first lubrication circuit and second lubrication circuit, wherein the first pump is hydraulically connected to the first sump and the first lubrication circuit, and the second pump is hydraulically connected to the second sump and second lubrication circuit.

Claims 1-17 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith (USP 5,115,887) in view of Baxter (USP 5,702,319). The Office action acknowledges that the '887 patent fails to show two pumps connected the output of the transfer case. The Office action says that Baxter shows a lubrication system comprising two pumps 72 and 50 driven by the output 14 of the transfer case 10. The Office action concludes that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the pump connection of Smith with the common pump connection of Baxter to maintain constant lubrication whenever the vehicle is moving with or without the engine running.

The system of the '887 patent describes operation of its system when the engine is operating and during a towing condition, when the engine is not operating. When the engine is operating passage 20 is pressurized, the spool of control valve 24 is moved leftward to the pressure-set position, hydraulic fluid is drawn from sump 16

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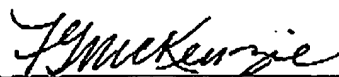
through valve 24 to the input of lube pump 34, and fluid is drawn from sump 16 through valve 24 and passage 30 to the input of scavenge pump 50.

However, when the engine is not operating during a towing condition, control valve 24 moves to the spring-set position shown in Figure 1, where there is no hydraulic connection between sump 16 and the inlet of scavenge pump 50. There is no connection between sump 14 and the input of lube pump 54, but hydraulic fluid is drawn from sump 16 through valve 24 and passage 34 to the inlet of pump 54. Therefore, the '887 patent teaches away from having pumps 54 and 50 connected continually to the output of the transfer case because the '887 patent provides for the towing condition without requiring that each pump be driven from the transfer case output.

Furthermore, if the transfer case output were continually driveably connected to pumps 50 and 54 while the engine is not operating and the vehicle is being towed, passage 20 is not pressurized and valve 24 is placed in the spring-set position of Figure 1. With valve 24 in that position and pump 50 driven from the output of the transfer case, the input of pump 50 would be cavitated because there is no connection between the input of pump 50 and any source of hydraulic fluid. This would be an inoperable, unacceptable condition because operating the pump with its input cavitated would quickly destroy the pump. There is no basis for combining the teachings of '887 patent with the dual pump drive taught by the '319 patent.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the claims are now in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes
2/3

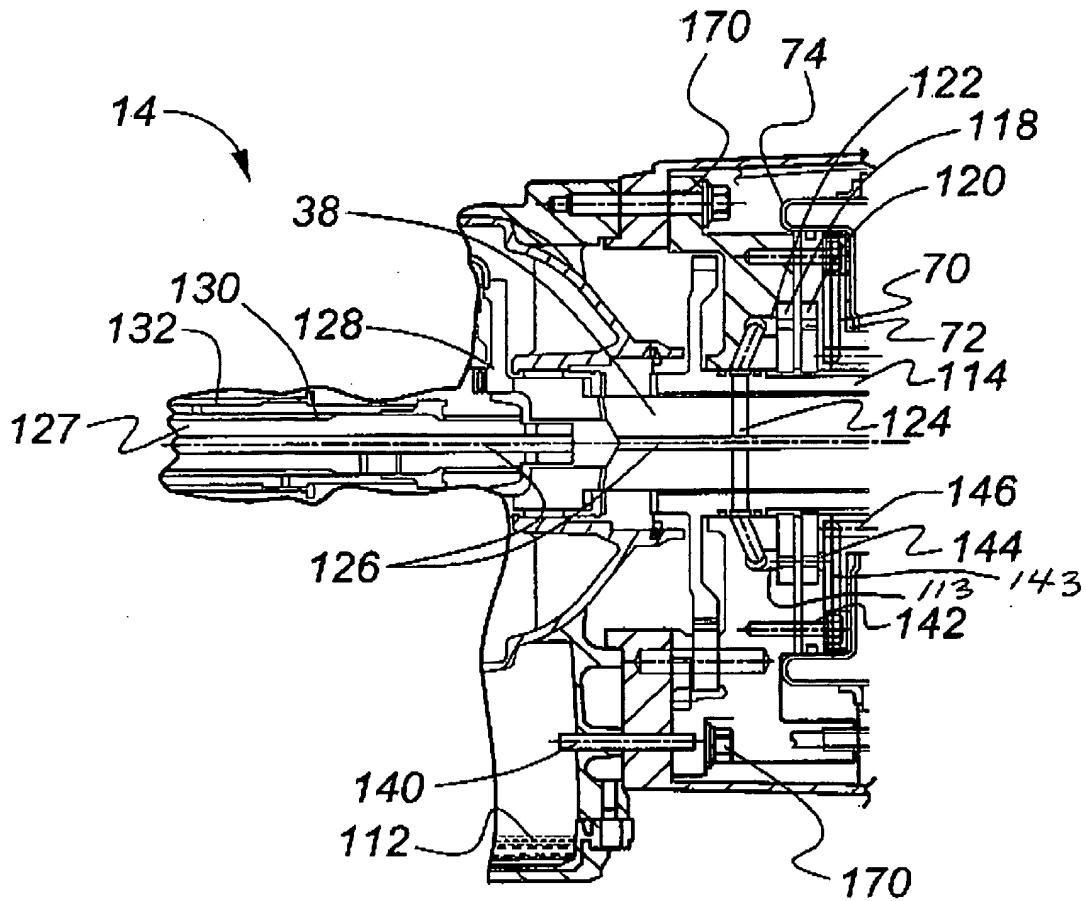


Figure 2A

Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

3/3

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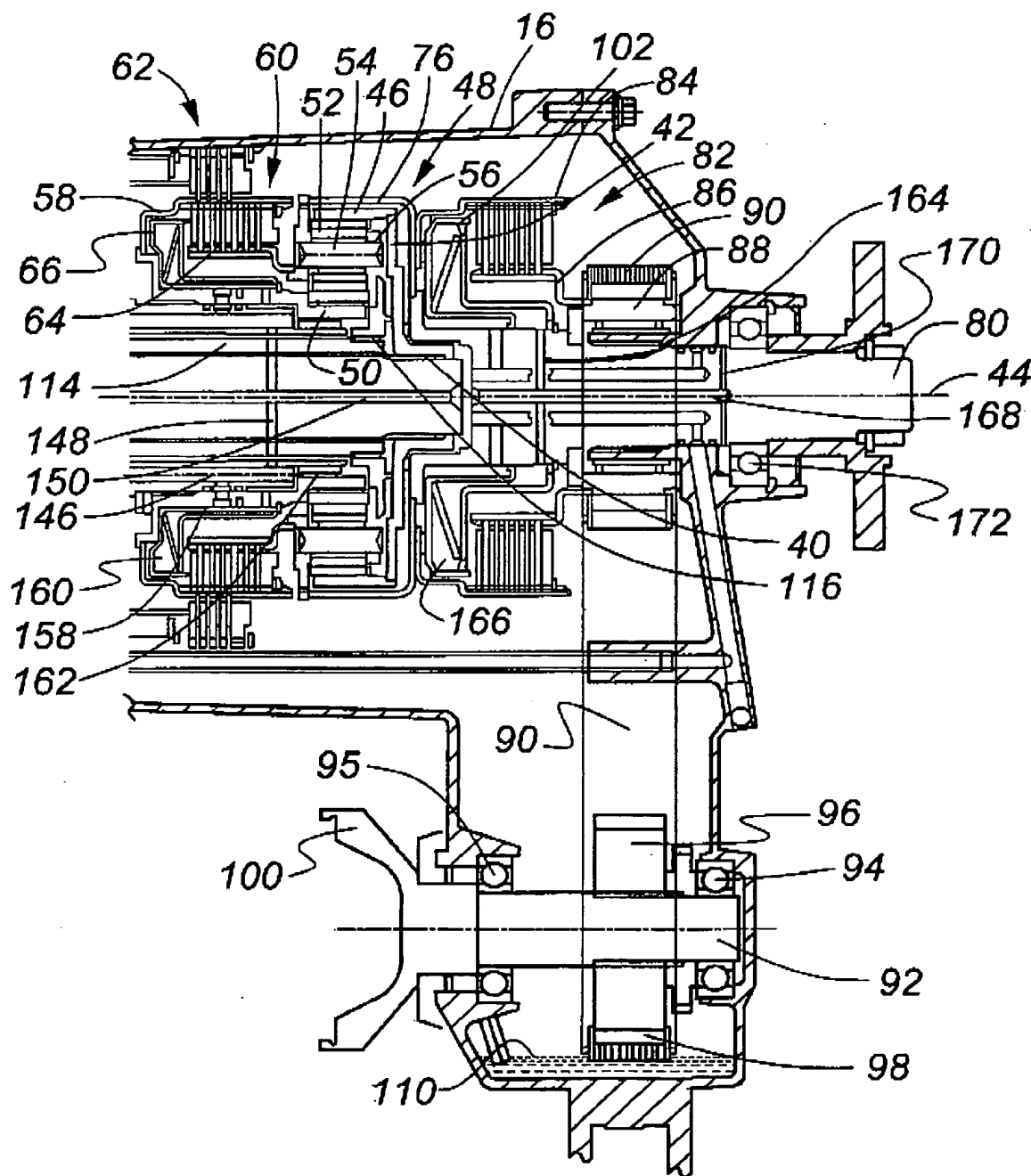


Figure 2B